FARM NEWS

By J. A. Smith, County Agent

Insect Control of Stored Grains

The method in which grains are handled at storage time may well determine the quality that will be available for sale for livestock feed this winter.

The rice weevil and angoumois grain moth are the two most destructive grain insects in Appomattox County. They are strong flies and therefore may travel from old grain bins to the field where new infestations begin.

To control these insects remove all old grain and litter from the grain bin, sweep down the walls and floors and remove grain that may have become scattered about the area. Spray the entire bin with a 2½% DDT, methoxychlor or TDE. While spraying, be sure that all cracks and crevices are thoroughly covered in that many times these insects will go to these areas and therefore will not come in contact with the spray materials.

It is also advisable to spray the outside of the bins, the ground and underneath the bins.

Institute of Rural Affairs

On July 17th, 18th and 19th, the Institute of Rural Affairs will be held in Blacksburg, Va. It is hoped that a good delegation of men and women from Appomattox County will attend. The registration fee will be $1.50, meals wil cost 60 cents apiece and lodging will be one dollar per night. All farmers and homemakers planning to attend are asked to contact the county or home agent by July 6th.

Spray or Dust

The home gardener can get into a welter of confusion deciding whether to spray or dust for disease control. After he makes that decision he still faces a choice of equipment. Here are some tips which may help.

Both spraying and dusting are satisfactory if properly done. Usually spraying is cheaper and you can do a more thorough job. However, dusting is usually more convenient and quicker to do.

There are severall hand sprayers on the market. Your choice depends on your own preference and the size of your garden. For a few flowers or a half dozen tomato plants, a small hand sprayer or atomizer will likely be satisfactory. For the average gardener, a compressed air sprayer or atomizer is better. The chief objection to the compressed-air sprayer is that they are not equipped with an agitator, and it is necessary to keep the spray solution well mixed by shaking the tank frequently during spraying.

The knapsack sprayer costs somewhat more, but will give higher and more uniform pressure when the pump is kept in operation. An agitator is provided within the tank and operates with the movement of the pump handle. Then there are bucket and barrel pump type sprayers and small motor-driven sprayers for larger gardens.

The small sprayers cost from $1 to $25, depending on the size of the sprayer and the kind of metal used. Of course, the power spraying devices are more expensive.

Several different kinds and types of hand dusters are available to the home gardener. The small plunger type will do a fair job on a small flower garden or a few vegetables. Dusters are usually equipped with a tube and nozzle attachment that permits the dust to be directed to the under surface of the leaves, and this is important. It is hard to get uniform distribution of dust with most small outfits.

Bellows-type dusters come in two sizes. One is made like a blacksmith's bellows and is equipped with special openings and a container for the dust. It can be held in your hands. A larger bellows-type must be strapped to your back. The bellows duster is especially suited for spot dusting.

The larger fan or rotary-type duster is the most satisfactory piece of equipment for use on the average garden. It is easy to do a thorough job with this type of equipment. The rotary duster is also strapped to the operator's back and is operated by a crank attached to a fan blower. A discharge tube is used to direct the dust to the plants. Prices of large rotary and bellows type dusters are considerably more than for the smaller ones, but with proper care they should last several years.

Stop Loss of Tractor Fuel

How would you like to save 10 per cent of your tractor fuel bill?

Fuel represents about 40 per cent of tractor operating costs, and at least 10 per cent of the fuel bill can be saved with improved storage facilities and proper fuel system adjustments.

Evaporation during storage in summer accounts for a large loss of tractor fuels. Half-full tanks in the sun may lose 3 to 4 per cent a month, while shaded tanks will lose less than 1 per cent. In three months unshaded tanks may lose 15 per cent, and those in shade, only 6 per cent.

Aluminum or white paint will also help cut down evaporation losses because the light color reflects the sunlight. A small tank filled every two weeks will lessen the length of time that gasoline is stored, thus eliminating evaporation losses which result from long storage periods.

Carburetor adjustments, as well as spark timing, grinding of valves, and cleaning the air filter all help to save fuel. Take time to clean, repair, and adjust those parts of the tractor where most of the fuel loss accurs.

Kerosene - Fueled Equipment

Users of kerosene-fueled appliances should be alert to the dangefs of this type of equipment, the Virginia Rural Safety Council says.

The Council lists these safety precautions and common danger::

Operating instructions of the manufacturer must be followed exactly, and preventive maintenance and repairs should be undertaken promptly when needed.

Burners should be clean at all times. When wicks are burning low, trim or replace them.

Use only the recommended fuel. Be sure the appliance is approved by Underwriters Laboratories.

Operate all cooking and heating devices in a level position. Never leave a lighted stove unattended. If you leave turn off the stove.

Locate stoves so that curtains, drapes, or other inflammable materials canot blow into contact with heating surfaces or an open flame.

Kerosene devices have been perfected to the point where they are comparatively safe, but the user must still be careful.

Never pour kerosene into a coal or wood stove to help in starting a fire. It has meant sudden death to many persons who did.

Soil Washing Shows Conservation Need

Most farmers recognize gullies and large silt deposits as signs that attention is needed if their soil is to remain productive.

But there are many less obvious signs of erosion that will eventually eat away profits as well as soil if they are not corrected.

Here are some of the less easily recognized signs of trouble:

Appearance of new stones and gravel on the surface after a field has once been cleared is usually a sign that fine soil has washed away from over and around the stones. Frost heaving may bring small stones to the surface in poorly drained areas, but if the soil beneath a flat stone is a little higher than the surrounding soil, forming a smal pedestal under the stone, it is an indication that surrounding soil has washed or blown away.

Exposed plant roots are another sign of soil erosion, because plant roots do not ordinarily grow above the surface. And bare spots often develop on pastures where livestock have grazed closely and trampled the plants.

On many ridges, knolls and upper slopes, crops are of poorer quality than those grown on the area below. Leaves are lighter colored, the plants are shorter, and yields are lower. Low fertility and lack of moisture resulting from loss of topsoil cause these conditions. Soil accumulating above trees, stones, and fences on a slope is further proof of soil loss from the upper areas.

Garden Talk

By Appomattox Garden Club

Let's talk gladiolus today. "Glad" lovers have planted corms (bulbs in everyday language) several times already. They know that to gain a succession of bloom with gladiolus, it is necessary to make planting ten days apart, beginning in April, when the danger of frost is past (and, the maple leaves are the size of squirrel ears). The time from planting till bloom varies from 70 to 90 days, so by planting a few every ten days, flowers can be had till frost.

Gladioli need full sun and a lot of water. They do best in loam of medium richness, a sandy loam with good drainage, and pulverized for six inches.

Corms can be spaced as close as 3 inches apart, but are usually planted 4 to 6 inches apart, and covered 2 to 6 inches deep. Small corms are covered only 2 inches deep. Corms should be from 1 inch to 2 inches in diameter to send up fine, tall stalks.

When the plants are about six inches high, begin to spray with DDT to control thrips, the pests that go to work on the buds before they emerge from the sheath and chafe the edges so that the flowers are malformed. Spray every week or 10 days thereafter till the buds begin to show color.

When cutting gladioli for the house, cut spikes when second flower starts opening. They will finish blooming in water and will last for a week or 10 days.

Leave four leaves on the plant to help the corms mature.

Six to eight weeks after a corm blooms it will have matured and be ready to dig. Fork corms from the soil, lift by tops, and keep varieties separate if you plan to replant to exhibit or need to know colors. Cut off foliage at top of corms and spread out to cure in a frost-free place for 2 or 3 weeks. Then clean off old bases, and roots, sort as to size, and label. Dust with DDT and store in a dry, cold place where temperatures do not fall to freezing.

The word Gladiolus is the Latin word for "little dagger," and in Europe it is sometimes called the "sword lily."

Vera

Vera, June 19.- We were so thankful for the fine rain. It was badly needed, and it brought cooler weather. It had been so very hot.

The Bible School closed at New Hope Church on Friday night. They had a big school, and the children enjoyed going.

Mr. T. C. Harvey, Sr., attended the farmers and bankers meeting at Rustburg on Saturday. They served a bountiful dinner, and Mr. Harvey said that they had one of the heaviest rains he ever saw; over two inches in two hours.

Mrs. Ida T. Morris visited in the home of Mrs. Lester B. Harvey on Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. T. C. Harvey and Harriette visted in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Wilson Scruggs on Thursday night.

Mr. Bob Bryant is spending some time in the home of his brother, Mr. R. P. Bryant.

Mr. and Mrs. L. H. Watson visited in the home of Mr. and Mrs. C Harvey on Saturday night.

Miss Harriette Harvey spent week-end in the home of Miss Moses.

The Bible School at Bethel Church begins the 18th. Be for a good attendance.

Mr. and Mrs. T. C. Harvey ed in the home of Mr. and Robert Coleman on Sunday

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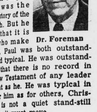
"Required Scripture: Acts 27-28. Supplemental Reading: Psalm 67.

Widening Circles

Lesson for June 24, 1956

A doctor who wrote what we call the book of Acts must have felt that his story was not the story. He throws his spotlight on one leader, then on occasion on a whole band. During more than half his book he follows one man, Paul. He could not have supposed—that Paul would not have to make mistakes in the story of the story of the church. But he knew that it is God who makes the mistakes.



Dr. Foreman

Paul was both outstanding and typical. He was outstanding in that there is no record in the New Testament of any leader who was as bad as he. He was typical in that he was like him as for others, Christianity is not a quiet stand-still religion; it must move.

Years

In the book of Acts the reader sees Christianity moving always in one direction: west. It has been moving west ever since. But there were already pioneers in other directions. To the north went missionaries into the countries now known as France, Holland, Scandinavia, Great Britain. To the east went the pioneer Christians who founded the churches along southern side of the Mediterranean and even penetrated up the Nile to the east west pioneers brought the Gospel to what is Iraq. It was not long before there were Christians as far away as India. The Book of Acts closes with Paul in the world-capital of Rome. But the story of the Acts of the Holy Spirit through the Christian church is still being told. It is an unfinished story. It will not be an unfinished story so long as there are persons yet to hear. Life Magazine carried a story about the martyrdom of two young missionaries to the Auca tribe of Indians in darkest Ecuador. It is safe to say that most of the readers of Life had never heard of the Aucas before. Indeed, most American church members had never heard of them. But there is, some Christians had, a time was to want to go and tell them the story of Jesus. Now there are five dead missionaries, five widows . . . but it is safe to predict that some of these will come back, and others will follow, and one day it will be as safe to go among the Aucas as it is on Main street. You cannot stop pioneers.

Foreign religion

Why has the Bible been translated into so many hundreds of tongues? Not for fun. They don't translate the Bible into (say) Mayan, and then start looking for Mayans to try it on. It is the other way around. First some missionaries go to the Mayans, and bring some to Christ. And then those missionaries and the new Christians want a Bible in the language of the land, so some one has to translate it into Mayan, and after some years of hard work there appears a Mayan New Testament. Some day the Old will appear in Mayan. Every translation of the Bible is evidence that missionaries have been at work. If the Christian religion had stayed where it started: (it would have died but let's suppose it lived) there would be no English Bibles, no French, only some Celtic dialect of Hebrew. The presence of Bibles in English is due to the work of missionaries years ago who brought not only Christ but religion to our wild ancestors.

Years made of yards

We talk about the spread of Christianity, and indeed it has gone around the world. But it spreads any farther at one time than from one person to one other. Drop a stone into a pond and presently the ripples reach the shore. But the first ripple is far bigger than the stone. Everything, no matter how long, is made up of very short stretches. A mile is made of yards, yards are made of inches. You never see ten thousand miles at a time covering every inch of all that distance. A plain church member calling on a neighbor and speaking a good word for Jesus may not feel like a "world missioner", but that is what he is. The world is ever won for Christ by one man by man. No less than Billy Graham has been the most effective kind of evangelism: one plus one plus one.

Lesson outlines copyrighted by the International Council of Religious Education, on behalf of 32 Christian Educational Churches of America, and released by Cam-ra-Graphic Services.

Around Your Home

By Frances Dell

An attractive trellis planter can be made to set before or in that lost looking fireplace during summer months.

For carrying out the trellis idea, use the new plastic clotheslines available in a variety of colors. The frame and planter is most attractive in a redwood or fir box. The clothesline is laced on the wooden frame into a diamond shaped pattern.

A large planting box with a tall trellis can be built as a room divider between the dining room and living room or the new family rooms and kitchen. Redwood is suggested because it can stand a lot of moisture. However, it is a good idea to line the box with copper.

There is a new starch concentrate on the market that can be a real summer timesafer for the busy homemaker. It is a liquid, comes in an easily handled eight ounce bag which you measure out by the tablespoon full. It mixes instantly with cool water. It requires no cooking, and is designed for use with all home washable fabrics. It will last weeks longer than ordinary starch, and is ideal for the new miracle fabrics.

There is a new pamphlett, free to the public, giving hundreds of tips on cleaning throughout the house, from furniture to woodwork and wall.

Included are instructions for removing stains from marble surfaces and protecting the area from future discoloration, ways to retard tarnish on silver, brass and copper and many cleaning tips applicable to piano keys, rubber housewares, leather, lamp bases and wood floors.

Every homemaker should see to it that the members of her family know how to swim. If you live in a small town in the southern part of the country, this will be no problem, bacausae there are usually lakes, rivers or the ocean close at hand. However, city mothers some time neglect this very important part of their children's education.

It is the responsibility of every mother and father to see that their children are taught how to take care of themselves in water. Next summer may be too late!

Premier Nasser, of Egypt, has accepted an invitation to visit Communist China.

Stonewall

Stonewall, June 19.- We have been blessed with good rains, and had two real bad storms, and some hail. Wind blew down the wheat, but most of it has come back up.

Mr. Jim McKenry, of Atlanta, Ga., spent the week-end with his home folks near here.

Mr. and Mrs. Monroe Dysse, of Mobile, Alabama, have arrived to spend their vacation with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Parks Jennings.

Mrs. H. B. Jennings is visiting in the same home for some time.

Mrs. Henry Beard celebrated her father's birthday on Sunday, June 17. It was also Father's Day. She gave a picnic dinner at Wayside Park, Amherst. Mr. Beard and son, and Mrs. Chick enjoyed it with him. Wish for him many more happy days to come.

The W. M. U. of Hebron Church will meet at the church tonight. Mrs. P. B. Stratton will have the devotional, and Mrs. E. L. Chick will give the program on "Thy Ward A Lamp, A Light." Let's hope for a large attendance.

The W. S. C. S. of Bethel Church met with Mrs. Jim McKenry last Tuesday night, with a good attendance.

Mrs. C. M. Caldwell attended the wedding of her niece, Miss Nona Clair Bondurant, in Roanoke on last Saturday evening. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Bondurant.

Mr. Lester Carson has returned home from the hospital much improved. His brother, Virgil Carson, and Mr. and Mrs. Tommie Carson and children, of Roanoke visited him on Saturday.

The Bethel and Trinity folks are all so happy to know that their beloved pastor, the Rev. Aaron D. Smith, has been returned for another year.

Dr. Twyman Williams preached at Stonewall Church on Sunday morning.

Everyone is invited to attend the beauty contest at the Stonewall Community Center next Saturday night. The men will dress up like ladies. Cakes, pies and candy will be sold. Proceeds will help pay for painting the top of the building.

Mr. and Mrs. Floyde Weidman and two children have gone to make their home in Kansas. They will be missed by their many friends here.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles N. Judy and son, of Fincastle, spent the week-end with her father, Mr. J. O. Davidson, and other home folks.

France can double her output in ten years, expert says.

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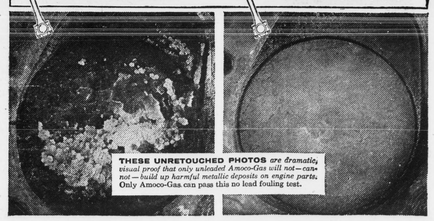

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